

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. The estimate was approved by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

# THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 2018

## HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Medicaid Reimbursement Act of 2018, the seventh time I have introduced this bill. My bill would increase the federal government's share of the District's Medicaid expenditures, known as the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP), from 70 to 80 percent. The District, a medium-sized American city, should not pay more than other large cities. For example, in 2012–2013, New York City, the jurisdiction that powers the economy of New York State, contributed 20 percent of the state's Medicaid costs, while the state paid 33 percent, less than the District's federally mandated 30 percent contribution.

When the District faced financial difficulty as the only city to pay for state functions, Congress, with the District's consent, passed the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act), which transferred from the District to the federal government the costs and/or operations of several state functions, including prisons, courts and offender supervision. The Balanced Budget Act of 1997, which included the Revitalization Act, statutorily set D.C.'s FMAP at 70 percent. The District's financial crisis was largely the result of the District's uniqueness as the only city responsible for paying for state functions, while the federal government also imposed unique revenue limitations on the District. All of the revenue limitations remain. Congress recognized that state costs are inappropriate for a city to shoulder, though the District has continued to carry many of these burdens like a state.

Medicaid is a joint federal-state program. The FMAP statutory minimum is 50 percent and the maximum is 83 percent. Local funds may constitute up to 60 percent of a state's share. The FMAP formula is based on a state's per capita income relative to the national average, and the higher a state's per capita income, the lower the FMAP. If the District operated under the FMAP formula, as it did prior to the Revitalization Act, the federal government would pay only 50 percent of D.C.'s Medicaid expenditures.

The District, a city with no state to contribute to it, must alone absorb the state portion of Medicaid. Thus, the District pays for 30 percent of Medicaid, more than any U.S. city. Considering the difference in the size of its tax base, the District should certainly contribute no more than New York City's contribution to Medicaid. Therefore, my bill would raise the federal contribution to the District's Medicaid program to 80 percent, equal to that of New York City.

On December 21, 2017, Representative Morgan Griffith introduced a bill (H.R. 4709) that would blow a massive hole in the Dis-

trict's budget by reducing the FMAP for D.C. from the current 70 percent to 54 percent. Under the bill, beginning in fiscal year 2020, the federal government would pay the higher of the FMAP formula or a FMAP fixed percentage that decreases until it reaches 54 percent in 2027 and thereafter. This Griffith bill demonstrates a complete misunderstanding of the uniqueness of D.C.'s structure and economy and the intent of the Revitalization Act. I will fight to defeat this backwards bill.

In 1997, a formula error in the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital allotment reduced the 70 percent FMAP share, and, as a result, the District received only \$23 million instead of the \$49 million it was due. I was able to secure a technical correction in the Balanced Budget Act of 1999, partially increasing the annual allotment to \$32 million from fiscal year 2000 forward. I appreciate that, in 2005, Congress responded to our effort to get an additional annual increase of \$20 million in the budget reconciliation bill, bringing D.C.'s Medicaid reimbursements to \$57 million, as intended by the Revitalization Act, although this amount did not reimburse the District for the years the federal error denied the city part of its rightful federal contribution.

In conclusion, this bill would treat the District just like the federal government treats other large cities when it comes to Medicaid reimbursement rates, and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

## IN HONOR OF 2018 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE ROBERT YATES

## HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Robert Yates upon his induction into the ninth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

Getting his NASCAR start with Holman-Moody Racing, Robert was mentored by fellow NASCAR Hall of Famer Junior Johnson. In 1983, as the engine builder for Bobby Allison and Cale Yarborough, he was able to lead Bobby to a series championship with DiGardi Racing. His accomplishments allowed him to launch his own team in the late 1980s, Robert Yates Racing. Success followed him during every step of his journey which culminated in one of the most impressive careers in NASCAR history.

By the time he retired, Robert Yates had amassed 57 total wins, 1,155 starts and 48 poles won. His accomplishments also include winning the NASCAR premier series championship and the Daytona 500 three times. To say Robert Yates is a racing legend would be a gross understatement. A fierce competitor and true gentleman, he is the embodiment of racing and will now take his place among the greats in the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

This year's class was selected by a comprehensive voting panel that included track owners, retired competitors, industry leaders, members of the media, and a nationwide fan vote. In total, a group of five was chosen to join the ranks of other NASCAR legends in the Hall of Fame. Robert Yates is extremely deserving of this honor and will now be en-

shrined forever for his contributions to the sport.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Robert Yates on his induction into the NASCAR Hall of Fame.

## HONORING JAMES CODY BURKHAM

## HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true patriot and friend. James Cody Burkhams of Hope, Arkansas, has faithfully served in my office as a legislative correspondent and most recently as a legislative assistant. He previously served on my congressional campaign, for a combination of four years on my staff.

Whether it was traveling the farms of the Fourth Congressional District of Arkansas to meet with cattle ranchers or taking a meeting with postal workers, Cody put in the long hours to meet the needs of his fellow Arkansans.

When I learned Cody would take a new position that would return him to our beloved Natural State, I felt sadness for the people of the Fourth District to lose Cody's hard work and persistence. At the same time, I felt happiness and joy for him as he begins the next chapter of his life. I give Cody thanks for his dedication during these four years and wish him the best.

## HONORING THE 2018 ACADEMY NOMINEES OF THE 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

## HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 19, 2018

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for Navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. In fact, this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830s, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the composition of our military's leadership. This was not

an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and hand-capped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process, the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

My Academy Review Board is composed of local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area; many are veterans. Although from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common vision, that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding young men and women every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of two days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may not appear on paper.

This year the board interviewed over 40 applicants. The Board's recommendations were then forwarded to the academies, where recruiters reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admission.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the academy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in the Middle East, Africa or other troubled spots around the world, we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America's best and brightest in command.

#### ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2018, 11TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

##### AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Annie Guo, Livingston, Livingston High School; Hayley Zwickel, Pine Brook, Montville Township High School; Griffin Heyrich, Madison, Madison High School; Sarah Houser, Morristown, Morristown High School; Apurva Memani, Livingston, Pingry School; Rushi Desai, Parsippany, Morris Hills High School; Tyler Kim, Montville, Montville Township High School.

##### MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Anthony Corso, Fairfield, Maritime College, State University of New York; Alexander Schlegel, Mendham, West Morris Mendham High School; Thomas Rodgers, Caldwell, James Caldwell High School.

##### NAVAL ACADEMY

Juliana Valencia, Pompton Lakes, Pompton Lakes High School; Andre Papasavas, Woodland Park, Passaic Valley High School; Grace Perrotta, Bloomfield, Bloomfield High School; Peter Yamasaki, Pequannock, Trinity Christian School; Morgan La Sala, Wayne, Wayne Valley High School; Brendan Flood, Denville, Seton Hall Preparatory School; Calvin Poche, Morristown, Morristown-Beard School; Joseph Rosowicz, Chatham, Regis High School; Daniel DuBois, Wayne, Don Bosco Preparatory School; Andrew Lee, East Hanover, Oratory Preparatory.

##### MILITARY ACADEMY

Ajay Hariharan, Randolph, Randolph High School; Charles Marashlian, North Caldwell, Seton Hall Preparatory School; Timothy Cieslak, Wayne, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Alyssa Chellaraj, Morris Plains, Parsippany Christian School; Jeffrey Sun, Mendham, Morris Hills High School; Timothy Higgins, Morris Plains, Chatham High School; Spencer Cowen, North Caldwell, West Essex Regional High School; Patrick MacLean, Mendham, West Morris Mendham High School; Matthew Rothman, Pequannock, Pequannock High School; Aaron Tam, Pompton Lakes, Rutgers University.

#### PROMOTING THE 2018 MARCH FOR LIFE

### HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 19, 2018*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize the March for Life on Friday, January 19, 2018, here in Washington, D.C. This is a gathering of thousands of Americans from across our great country, all who are standing up for the protection of unborn children.

Ever since the reprehensible ruling by the Supreme Court in *Roe vs. Wade*, the barbaric practice of abortion on demand has been rampant in our country. All too often we fall into the trap of conflating women's health with abortion, assuming that if one supports protecting life, then we're failing to care for women's health. Nothing could be further from the truth.

I stand here today with the millions of Americans across our country who believe that the lives of innocent children must be protected. I have long been a staunch advocate for pro-life

issues despite vocal opposition. As Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, I shepherded the partial-birth abortion ban through Congress. It was one of my greatest honors to watch President George W. Bush sign it into law, and I was relieved that the Supreme Court upheld it. I have fully supported every effort in Congress to stop federally funded abortions, both in the United States and abroad, and will continue to fight efforts to federally fund these horrific practices.

#### CELEBRATING JOYCE NEWTON

### HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 19, 2018*

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Joyce Newton. When Joyce passed away on Tuesday, January 16, our nation lost a devoted leader who loved her country, and I lost a good friend.

Joyce and her husband Bob, who passed away in 2012, lived a meaningful life full of love, laughter, and happiness. In 1957, the Newtons started Hoosier Racing Tire. With his determination and her steady guidance, the Newtons transformed their small family business into the world's largest producer of race tires.

Joyce and Bob Newton put their heart and soul into everything they did, and 61 years after they started their business, our community is so much stronger thanks to their generosity. As Hoosier Racing Tire grew, they began giving back to ensure their own children and Hoosiers across our community would have every opportunity to succeed. As a symbol of her inspiring hard work and determination, our community expressed its gratitude for Joyce by selecting her to represent Lakeville as a torchbearer in Indiana's Bicentennial Torch Relay.

Joyce's four kids, 12 grandkids, and 13 great-grandkids—and counting—will always remember the kind, loving person she was. They will also fondly remember their countless family vacations, trips to country music concerts, and the various community events in which Joyce was intimately involved. This family's close bond was held together by Joyce's giving heart and contagious smile.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the life Joyce Newton led and for her service to the northern Indiana community. Her passion for helping others strengthened Lakeville and all surrounding areas and improved the lives of everyone she knew. I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating her life and recognizing her outstanding public service.

#### IN HONOR OF 2018 NASCAR HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE RAY EVERNHAM

### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 19, 2018*

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate racing legend Ray Evernham upon his induction into the ninth class of the NASCAR Hall of Fame.